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**LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE****PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-16-26
November 7, 2016****PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE**

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov

APPLICANT NAME: Absarokee Sewer District RSID 5 & 7/Stillwater County
P.O. Box 405
Absarokee, MT 59001

FACILITY NAME: Absarokee Sewer District RSID 5 & 7 Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 508 N. Montana Avenue
Absarokee, Stillwater County, MT

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Ditch which drains to Rosebud Creek
Outfall 01A: Rosebud Creek

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0021750

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for discharge of treated wastewater to a ditch which drains to Rosebud Creek. The Absarokee Sewer District RSID 5 & 7 Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), which serves approximately 1,200 people, consists of a three-cell aerated lagoon system, with ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection of the effluent and a design flow of 0.35 million gallons per day (mgd). The proposed permit will (1) maintain existing national secondary treatment standards for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and pH and existing limits on *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) bacteria; (2) immediately apply treatment equivalent to secondary standards for total suspended solids (TSS); and (3) apply limits on total ammonia-N effective January 1, 2021. In addition, general variance limits for nutrients discharged from lagoon systems are applied which reflect the treatment capabilities of the existing aerated lagoon

system. Discharge from the upgraded WWTF may be to the ditch or direct to Rosebud Creek. The proposed permit requires periodic self-monitoring of discharge quality and quantity, as well as some receiving water monitoring, with monthly reporting of results. This permit and Fact Sheet will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS December 9, 2016. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS December 9, 2016 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov.

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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